

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-15 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00  
/115 W

-----116786 280513Z /23

O 280417Z SEP 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3698  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: LETTER FROM SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN  
MINISTER TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 27 FROM  
SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA TO UN SECRETARY  
GENERAL WALDHEIM. THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE REQUESTED  
CIRCULATION OF THE LETTER AS A SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENT.

BEGIN TEXT.

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LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1978 FROM THE MINISTER OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SOUTH AFRICA ADDRESSED TO THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REFER TO THE LETTER ADDRESSED TO YOU  
ON 6 SEPTEMBER 1978 ON THE QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA  
(S/12836). IN THAT COMMUNICATION I DREW YOUR EXCELLENCY'S

ATTENTION SPECIFICALLY AND IN DETAIL TO FOUR MAJOR POINTS IN THE REPORT WHICH YOU HAD SUBMITTED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL (S/12827) AND WHICH WERE OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT SINCE THEY DEVIATE SUBSTANTIALLY FROM THE FIVE'S PROPOSAL WHICH MY GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED ON 25 APRIL 1978. THESE POINTS OF CONCERN RELATED TO:

- THE SIZE OF THE MILITARY COMPONENT
- OF UNTAG;
- THE QUESTION OF CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL AND YOUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE;
- THE UNITED NATIONS CIVIL POLICE COMPONENT; AND
- THE ELECTION DATE.

THE VIEWS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ON THESE ISSUES ARE WELL KNOWN AND HAVE BEEN FULLY DISCUSSED IN MY LETTER REFERRED TO ABOVE. DESPITE THE MOST STRENUOUS EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FIVE THESE DIFFERENCES HAVE NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED.

IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT  
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FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE SECURITY COUNCIL CAN NOW BE ASKED TO ADOPT YOUR EXCELLENCY'S REPORT AND YOU BE REQUESTED TO IMPLEMENT IT.

I WOULD REMIND YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT SOUTH AFRICA ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL OF THE FIVE IN GOOD FAITH, BUT NO-ONE CAN BLAME THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT FOR BEING UNWILLING TO ACCEPT EXTENDED AND AMENDED PROVISIONS OF A PROPOSAL WHICH WAS DESCRIBED TO IT AS BEING FINAL AND DEFINITIVE. INDEED, THE FIVE PLEDGED THAT THEY WOULD STAND BY THEIR PROPOSAL.

SOUTH AFRICA HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THAT IT ABIDES BY ITS DECISION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL OF THE FIVE, AND EVEN NOW DOES NOT WISH TO CLOSE ANY DOORS. IN THIS CONNECTION I SHOULD LIKE TO RECALL THE STATEMENT BY MY PRIME MINISTER, THE HON. B.J. VORSTER, ON 20 SEPTEMBER 1978 (S/12853):

- "BEARING IN MIND THE CONSEQUENCES OF THESE
- DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH WEST
- AFRICA AS WELL AS THOSE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
- AS A WHOLE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN ITS MOST
- SERIOUS ATTENTION TO ALL THE ALTERNATIVES.

- THE CABINET, IN ITS DELIBERATIONS YESTERDAY,
  - CONCLUDED THAT THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA,
  - IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR WISHES, WOULD HAVE TO
  - BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ELECT THEIR OWN
  - REPRESENTATIVES. THIS WILL BE DONE ON THE
  - BASIS OF UNIVERSAL ADULT SUFFRAGE IN COUNTRY-
  - WIDE ELECTIONS IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH
  - UNEQUIVOCALLY WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO SPEAK FOR
  - THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA.
- 
- THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA HAVE CLEARLY
  - SIGNIFIED THEIR DESIRE TO EXERCISE THEIR INALIEN-
  - ABLE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE.
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- THUS MORE THAN 85 PERCENT OF THE ESTIMATED
- ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN THE TERRITORY HAVE

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- ENTHUSIASTICALLY REGISTERED TO VOTE, THIS
- NOTWITHSTANDING INTIMIDATION FROM CERTAIN
- QUARTERS NOT TO DO SO.
  
- ALL OPTIONS REMAIN OPEN TO THEM. WE WILL NOT
- PRESCRIBE TO THEM.
  
- THE BODY TO BE ELECTED MAY:
  
- DECIDE TO DRAW UP A CONSTITUTION OR
- POSTPONE THE DRAFTING THEREOF;

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- DECIDE TO PROCEED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION
- OF THE PROPOSAL OF THE FIVE;
  
- DECIDE TO ACCEPT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S
- REPORT.

THEY WILL, OF COURSE, ALSO BE FREE TO EXPRESS  
THEMSELVES ON NUMEROUS OTHER MATTERS." END TEXT.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECRETARY GENERAL, TEXT, MINISTERS (DIPLOMATS), DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**SAS ID:** 1480297  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAMIBIA: LETTER FROM SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER  
**TAGS:** PORG, PDIP, SF, WA, UNSC, (WALDHEIM, KURT), (BOTH, ROELEF F)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b987e852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014